

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR PATENT

OF: Claus HOFFJANN et al. |

Serial No.: to be assigned - NEW |

Filed: July 3, 2003 |

For: Method and Apparatus for Processing and
Re-Using of Gray Water for Flushing Toilets

MS PATENT APPLICATION
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

July 3, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Dear Sir:

- 1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 applicants are enclosing a Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references listed thereon.
- 2) This statement is being filed simultaneously with the above identified new patent application.
- 3) References AA, AC to AE and AH are each accompanied by an English Abstract. Reference AG is in English.
- 4) Reference AB, German Utility Model Publication G 87 17 458.8 discloses a collection tank for holding gray water in one tank section and rain water in another tank section with an overflow from the latter to the former. Gray water from bath tubs and showers flows through a coarse filter into the tank and is pumped out of the tank through a fine filter into a toilet flushing container in a building.

USPS EXPRESS MAIL
EV 338 198 266 US
JULY 03 2003

- 5) Reference AF, German Utility Model Publication G 94 10 633.9 teaches cleaning and treating domestic waste water including black water to an extent that the treated water can be recirculated as fresh water into the household water supply system. For this purpose the waste water passes through various stations including filters, a pH-value adjustment station (12) is followed by at least one ion-exchanger (60) which is in turn followed by an ionizer for adding "ionic components" to the cleaned water. The system is computer controlled. The computer receives filling level sensor signals and provides valve control signals. The system is intended as a small sewage treatment plant for households, ships and even spacecraft.
- 6) Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all references of record, return an initialled copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and ensure that all references of record are printed on any patent issuing from this application.
- 7) Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 1 to 25 are respectfully requested.

WGF:ar/4538
Enclosure: postcard,
1 Form PTO-1449,
8 references,
6 English Abstracts

Respectfully submitted,
Claus HOFFJANN et al.
Applicant

By W. G. Fasse
W. G. Fasse
Patent Attorney
Reg. No.: 21187
Tel. No.: 207-862-4671
Fax. No.: 207-862-4681
P. O. Box 726
Hampden, ME 04444-0726

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA, 22313-1450.

Karin Smith - July 3, 2003
Name: Karin Smith - July 3, 2003

USPS EXPRESS MAIL
EV 338 198 266 US
JULY 03 2003

Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>										Atty. Docket No. 4538			Serial No.: to b assigned		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (REVISED FORM PTO-1449) DATED: <u>July 3, 2003</u>										Applicant: Claus HOFFJANN et al.					
										U.S. Filing Date: July 3, 2003					
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS															
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	NAME	Cl.	Sub- Cl.	Fil. Date		
											-	-	-		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS															
		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	COUNTRY	Cl.	Sub- Cl.	Trans.		
													Yes	No	
	AA	3	5	0	0	1	3	0	07/1986	Fed. Rep. of Germany	-	-	x-	Abst	
	AB	G8	7	1	7	4	5	8	04/1989	Fed. Rep. of Germany (Utility Model)	-	-			x
	AC	3	8	0	9	8	8	8	10/1989	Fed. Rep. of Germany	-	-	x-	Abst	
	AD	3	9	0	1	3	2	0	06/1990	Fed. Rep. of Germany	-	-	x-	Abst	
	AE	4	3	2	8	0	1	4	01/1994	Fed. Rep. of Germany	-	-	x-	Abst	
	AF	G9	4	1	0	6	3	3	09/1994	Fed. Rep. of Germany (Utility Model)	-	-			x
	AG	06	2	7	3	1	7	1	09/1994	Japan (Abstract Only)	-	-	x		
	AH	4	4	2	9	2	0	1	02/1996	Fed. Rep. of Germany	-	-	x-	Abst	
OTHER DOCUMENTS															
EXAMINER									DATE CONSIDERED						
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>															

USPS EXPRESS MAIL
 EV 338 198 266 US
 JULY 03 2003